LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): An inflatable article comprising a first film bonded to a second film so as to provide between the first film and the second film a plurality of inflatable chambers comprising a plurality of cells, with each of the cells in the chambers being connected to at least one adjacent cell by an inflatable connecting channel, the first film being bonded to the second film between adjacent inflatable chambers, the first film and the second film each having ~~at least one formed region corresponding with a location of a cell, with the at least one formed region of the second film being nested into the at least one formed region of the first film,~~ a plurality of formed regions, the formed regions corresponding with locations of the cells and locations of the connecting channels, with each of the formed regions of the second film being nested into each of the formed regions of the first film.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, wherein each of the formed regions of each of the ~~films~~ cells is surrounded by an unformed, unbonded region of the film for enveloping a single inflatable cell.

Claim 4 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, wherein the inflatable chambers extend transversely across the inflatable article.

Claim 5 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, wherein the first film is bonded to the second film with a heat seal.

Claim 6 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, wherein the first film has a unit weight of from 20 to 250 grams per square meter and the second film has a unit weight of from 20 to 250 grams per square meter.

Claim 7 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, wherein the formed regions in the first film and the second film have a maximum dimension of from 0.25 to 3 inches.

Claim 8 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, wherein the first film has a unit weight of from 60 to 250 grams per square meter and the second film has a unit weight of from 60 to 250 grams per square meter, and the formed regions in the first film and the second film have a maximum dimension of from 0.5 to 6 inches.

Claim 9 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, wherein the formed regions ~~cavities~~ in the first film have a height of from about 1 millimeter to about 50 millimeters, and the formed regions ~~cavities~~ in the second film and the second film have a height of from about 1 millimeter to about 50 millimeters.

Claim 10 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, wherein the first film has a thickness of from about 0.5 to about 6 mils and the second film has a thickness of from about 0.5 to about 6 mils.

Claim 11 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, further comprising an open inflation skirt along a first edge running the length of the article.

Claim 12 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, further comprising a closed inflation manifold running the length of the article.

Claim 13 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 12, wherein the closed inflation manifold extends along a first edge of the inflatable article, with the plurality of inflatable chambers extending from the inflation manifold across the inflatable article.

Claim 14 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 12, wherein a plurality of inflatable chambers extends from a first side of the inflation manifold and a plurality of inflatable chambers extends from a second side of the inflation manifold, with the inflatable chambers which extend from the first side of the inflation manifold extending across the inflatable article towards a first side edge of the inflatable article, and the inflatable chambers which extend from the second side of the inflation manifold extending across the inflatable article towards a second side edge of the inflatable article.

Claim 15 (original): The inflatable article according to Claim 1, wherein each of the inflatable chambers contains from 3 to 20 cells.

Claim 16 (original): The inflatable cellular cushioning article according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second films are connected to one another along one fold line.

Claim 17 (original): The inflatable cellular cushioning article according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second films are connected to one another along two fold lines.

Claim 18 (original): The inflatable cellular cushioning article according to Claim 1, wherein the first film and second film are separate films.

Claim 19 (original): The inflatable cushioning article according to Claim 1, wherein the bond is a heat seal.

Claim 20 (original): The inflatable cellular cushioning article according to Claim 1, wherein the first film is a multilayer film and the second film is a multilayer film.

Claim 21 (original): The inflatable cellular cushioning article according to Claim 20, wherein the first film comprises a seal layer and an O_2-barrier layer, and the second film comprises a seal layer and an O_2-barrier layer.

Claim 22 (original): The inflatable cellular cushioning article according to Claim 21, wherein:

the first film comprises first and second outer layers, a central gas barrier layer, a first tie layer between the first outer layer and the gas barrier layer, and a second tie layer between the gas barrier layer and the second outer layer; and

the second film comprises first and second outer layers, a central gas barrier layer, a first tie layer between the first outer layer and the gas barrier layer, and a second tie layer between the gas barrier layer and the second outer layer; and

wherein the first outer layer of the first film is sealed to the first outer layer of the second film.

Claim 23 (withdrawn): A process for making an inflatable article, comprising:

(A) bonding a portion of a first film to a corresponding portion of a second film so that a resulting sealed article comprises a plurality of inflatable chambers comprising a plurality of inflatable cells, each of the cells in the chambers being connected to an adjacent cell by an inflatable connecting channel, the first film being bonded to the second film between adjacent inflatable chambers; and

(B) forming at least one region of the first film and at least one region of the second film, the formed regions corresponding with a location of a particular cell, with the formed region of the second film being nested into the formed region of the first film.

Claim 24 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 23, further comprising extruding the first and second films and thereafter cooling the first and second films before bonding the first film to the second film.

Claim 25 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 24, wherein the process is an integrated process.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 24, wherein the first and second films are connected to one another along one fold line.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 26, wherein the extrusion is carried out through a slot die, with the resulting film being folded to form the first and second films which are connected to one another along one fold line.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 24, wherein the extrusion is carried out through an annular die to form a tubular film which is collapsed into lay-flat configuration and slit lengthwise to form the first and second films which are connected to one another along one fold line.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 24, wherein the extrusion is carried out through an annular die to form a tubular film which is collapsed into lay-flat configuration, to form first and second films which are connected to one another along two fold lines.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 24, wherein the first film and second film are separate films.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 23, wherein the bonding of the first film to the second film is carried out by passing the second film between a heat sealing roller and the first film, with both the first film and the second film making a partial wrap together around the sealing roller, with the second film making a longer partial wrap around the sealing roller than the first film, with the first film contacting the second film after the second film has made a portion of its partial wrap around the sealing roller.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 31, further comprising contacting the first film with a nip roller while the first and second films are making the partial wrap together around the heat sealing roller, the nip roller pressing the first and second films together to assist in heat sealing the first film to the second film.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 23, wherein the forming of the first and second films is carried out by passing the first and second films together between:

(i) an embossing roller having a plurality of cavities on the surface thereof,; and

(ii) a forming roller having a plurality of protuberances on the surface thereof, the forming roller having a surface temperature below the fusion temperature of the first and second films;

the protuberances on the forming roller being aligned to enter the cavities of the embossing roller between the embossing roller and the forming roller, with the protuberances being undersized relative to the cavities of the embossing rollers so that portions of the first film which the protuberances force into the cavities in the embossing roller are not fused to the second film.

Claim 34 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 23, wherein the bonding step is carried out before the forming step.

Claim 35 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 23, wherein the forming step is carried out before the bonding step.

Claim 36 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 23, wherein the bonding step and the forming step are carried out simultaneously.

Claim 37 (withdrawn): The process according to Claim 36, wherein both the first and second films are formed in a plurality of regions, each of the regions corresponding with at least two cells and at least one connecting channel.